



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Friday, October 10th, 2008
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Missing Person Investigation Leads to Three Arrested for Homicide

Riverside, CA -- Riverside Police detectives' arrest three adult subjects in the disappearance / homicide of an adult male (25) of Riverside. Police arrested Steve Windust (25), Donovan Avila (39) and Manuel Acosta (39) all from Riverside. All three suspects were booked into Robert Presley Detention Center for murder.

On Tuesday, October 7th, detectives from the Homicide Unit were contacted by friends of the missing adult due to concerns they had regarding his disappearance. Detectives learned that the missing adult had befriended one of the suspect's and over a short period of time, the relationship between the two of them had diminished.

Preliminary investigation revealed that during the evening hours of October 3rd, the suspects drove the 25 year-old adult subject to a residence in the 4100 block of Sydney Harbour in Riverside. This was the last time the adult subject had been seen.

During their investigation, detectives developed leads that resulted in search warrants being obtained and served in the 900 block of Via Cartago and 4100 block of Sydney Harbour in Riverside. As a result of those search warrants, on October 9th, Steven Windust was taken into custody.

On October 10th, with assistance from the FBI, IRAT Unit (Inland Regional Apprehension Team), Donovan Avila was taken into custody after leaving a residence in the 5100 block of Appleton in Riverside. A short time later, the Riverside Police Department's PACT Unit located Manuel Acosta at his residence in the 1600 block of Mathews in Riverside. Both suspects were taken into custody.

While following up on leads from interviews conducted by detectives, a deceased subject was found in an open field north of the 215 freeway, west of Watkins Dr. in Riverside. A positive identification of the deceased subject is pending with the Coroner's Office.

The investigation is on-going. Anyone with information is asked to contact Detective Jim Brandt at (951) 353-7137 or Detective Mike Medici at (951) 353-7104.

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